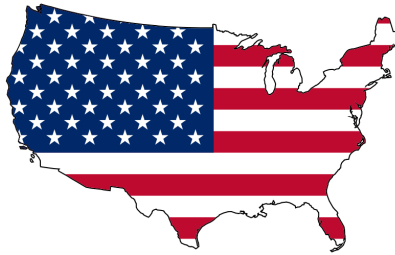


United States Embassy Macedonia

Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



Global articles for your interest
Issue 8
May 4 - May 31, 2009

Contents:

1. Obama Seeks \$1.42 Billion for Millennium Aid Agency in 2010

Washington — President Obama is asking Congress for \$1.42 billion to fund the Millennium Challenge Corporation for the fiscal year beginning October 1, an increase of 63 percent over the current year's funding. ...

2. Vice President Biden Begins Visit to the Balkans May 19

Vice President Biden is traveling to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia and Kosovo beginning May 18 in large measure to demonstrate intensified U.S. engagement in the Balkans, a senior administration official says. ...

3. Will Financial Crisis Bring U.S.-EU Regulatory Convergence?

Washington — Similar regulatory approaches recently pursued by the United States and European Union (EU) to address the financial crisis present an opportunity for more harmony in regulation on the two sides of the Atlantic. ...

4. Award-Winning Online Exhibit Teaches Tolerance, History

The 1908 race riots in Springfield, Illinois, that led to the founding of the NAACP can now be studied in the classroom much more effectively thanks to an online exhibit that recently won two prestigious international awards for outstanding achievement in museum media. ...

5. Professors Value Diversity, Service, Student-Centered Teaching

Growing numbers of American college and university faculty are committed to student-centered teaching and to instilling in their students an appreciation for the liberal arts, a commitment to community service, and an appreciation for other racial and ethnic groups, according to a triennial survey. ...

6. Graphic Novels: An Evolving Art Form Tackles New Themes

Graphic novels, combining comics-style artwork and dialogue, are winning acceptance as serious literary works that address complex issues. With the emergence of a new generation of Asian-American authors, the genre is exploring themes of identity, cultural roots and ethnic heritage. ...

In case you missed it:



*President Obama Delivers Remarks
at Cairo University, Egypt (AP photo)
You Tube - video*

[A New Beginning: President Obama Speaks to the Muslim World from Cairo](#)

June 4, 2009

President Obama (June 4): "I've come here to Cairo to seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world, one based on mutual interest and mutual respect, and one based upon the truth that America and Islam are not exclusive and need not be in competition.

Instead, they overlap, and share common principles -- principles of justice and progress; tolerance and the dignity of all human beings." - [Full Text](#).

◇ View a video on [You Tube](#) .



*Ambassador Reeker with McDonald's employees
(LP)*

[Opening of McDonald's in Tetovo](#)

Remarks by Ambassador Philip T. Reeker

May 30, 2009

Ambassador Reeker: "This event today in Tetovo is fun because the opening and expansion of such an iconic American brand as McDonald's reminds us all what we are working for: Our greatest success is when

people get together and share aspects of their culture, their economies, and the very fabric of their lives."...[more](#).



*Musa Xhaferi, Minister of Local Self
Government, and NALAS Executive Director
Kelmend Zajazi listen as Ambassador
Reeker gives his remarks. (LP)*

[Fifth Anniversary Celebration of Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe NALAS](#)

Remarks by Ambassador Philip T. Reeker

May 27th, 2009

Ambassador Reeker: "Decentralization is a key element of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, of which the United States is a guarantor. Now more than ever, Macedonia's government, political, and civil leaders must press ahead to realize the full benefits of implementing that Agreement."...[more](#).



Public Affairs Officer Ryan Rowlands joined local school kids for a beach cleanup followed by fun and games on the spotless shoreline of Lake Ohrid. (LP)
Photo slideshow - [YouTube](#) video.

Healthy Kids and a Healthy Environment in Macedonia

Struga, May 24-25, 2009

The US Embassy teamed with Open Fun Football Schools and the Macedonian Agency for Youth and Sport to support a two-week multiethnic sports camp that also promoted environmental awareness. The camp took place in and around Ohrid and Struga and brought together students from schools throughout the region. Before taking part in games and activities, kids cleaned up their local parks and school grounds and learned how pollution harms the planet.

♦ **To see more photos from this event, please view a video slideshow on the Embassy channel on [YouTube](#).**



People walk over the Stone Bridge in support of "Go Pink" initiative. (LP)
 [video](#) Kanal TV 5 video footage-3MB.

Skopje Turns Pink

May 17, 2009

May 17—According to media reports, approximately 2,000 people participated in Skopje's first annual breast cancer awareness walk, Go Pink! Local NGO partners BORKA and Integrity Alpha Omega co-hosted the event, with sponsorships from the Agency of Youth and Sport, the Ministry of Health, Avon, Syscom, Infomedia, Alkaloid, most major media stations, and others. All told, the event raised more than 350,000 MKD, which will go towards renovating a

chemotherapy clinic for women with breast cancer. Ambassador Reeker opened the event by welcoming the crowd. He said, "Your volunteerism is changing lives. When you walk today, you are taking a stand. You are standing up and saying that you can be counted upon to help." This project is part of the strategic partnership agreement between the U.S. and Macedonia. The Embassy would like to thank all of those who supported this event and came out and participated.

♦ **To view local coverage (Kanal 5 TV footage- WMV file size 3 MB) of this event, please [click here](#).**



During the visit, Ambassador Reeker presented President Ivanov and his family with pins representing the friendship between Macedonia and the United States, along with a flag that flew over the first Embassy. (LP)

President-elect Ivanov Visits the New Embassy

May 11, 2009

May 11--President-elect Ivanov and his family joined Ambassador Reeker for a tour of the new American Embassy the day before his inauguration. Apart from touring the grounds, he also visited with Embassy personnel and expressed his resolve to work to achieve Macedonia's goal of complete Euro-Atlantic integration.



Ambassador Reeker, Deputy Secretary Steinberg, and Prime Minister Gruevski discuss bilateral issues. (LP)

 **video** - (SITE TV video footage)

Deputy Secretary of State James B. Steinberg Visits Macedonia

May 16, 2009

On May 16, Deputy Secretary Steinberg arrived in Skopje and met with Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski and President Gjorge Ivanov. His discussions focused on issues of bilateral importance and securing NATO membership for Macedonia. While here, the Deputy Secretary also spoke with some political party leaders and exchanged ideas on the way

forward for the country.

♦ To view local coverage (SITE TV footage, WMV file - size 5.5MB) of his visit, please [click here](#).

For All Embassy News go to: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

Small Grants information: http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small_grants_program.html

American Educational Exchange information: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/aec.html>

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